

Joseph Anderson to Andrew Jackson, December 3, 1795, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOSEPH ANDERSON TO JACKSON.

Great Bent of Chuckry, 1 December 3, 1795.

1 Probably intended for “Chucky”, a popular form of “Nollichucky”, the name of a river in East Tennessee.

Dear Sir, On the first instant, after experiencing a very tiresom ride; and some bad and disagreeable Weather, I arriv'd safely at my own home; had the happiness of finding my Family well; and a young son, a charming fine boy, about ten days old. This I heard off at Knoxville, and felt about a thousand guineas richer, the moment I heard it. Thus my friend do the Springs of industry, increase our Wealth some in one way, and some another. Present my most sincere respects to Mrs. Jackson, and let me beg, both you and her, to accept my Gratefull acknowledgements, for your friendship, politeness and attention, whilst I had the happiness of being at Cumberland. The sense I entertain of your friendship and liberallity, induces me to tresspass upon your time. By Mr. Samuel Donaldson,² (whom by the bye, I consider one of the Cleverest young fellows I ever was acquainted with, and whose principles and Mental Virtues do Honor to human nature) I send you a power of Attorney, to make a purchase of Six hundred and forty acres of Land, lying at the mouth of Ceder lick Creek, the property as I think of the Heirs of Crutchfield. Captain Caffary as Attorney has the Selling of it. Permit me to request you to take a Veiw of it, and on your Judgment, I can fully rely, as to the quality and terms of purchase. If it does not overflow more than One hundred acres, no post and rail fence wou'd stand, thereon that quantity wou'd not injure it. Captain Caffary, told me, that it shou'd not exceed thirty

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pounds a hundred. if on Veiwing it, you think it worth that Sum, I wish you to purchase. it wou'd suit me to pay for it, either in a negro and Horses, or in Horses and some Money. If payment cou'd be deferred until next fall it wou'd suit me best, as I wish to make some other purchases in your Country. I have two already on the way, for two six hundred and fortys, and the Contracts for those, may perhaps be so made, that I might not without inconvenience, be able to comply with the whole.

2 Mrs. Jackson was a daughter of Col. John Donelson, who shared with Gen. James Robertson the honor of founding the Cumberland settlements. Since her family was large and played an important part in Jackson's life, it may be well to state here that Col. John Donelson's children, with the husbands of the daughters, were as follows: Alexander, Catherine (m. Thomas Hutchins), John, Mary (m. John Caffery), William, Jane (m. Col. Robert Hays), Rachel (m. Andrew Jackson). Samuel Severn, Leven, and Elizabeth (m. first Stockley Hays, second John Anderson). The Samuel Donelson mentioned in this letter was the father of Maj. Andrew Jackson Donelson, who was Jackson's private secretary in Washington. See a bill of complaint of John McIver, Jackson MSS., vol. 35, last entry.

I also want you to inform yourself, what Stewarts can be had at, I mean the tract that adjoins Castlemans on Stoners Creek. If Captain Caffary thinks he cou'd not wait for the whole of the pay until fall, I cou'd make out to let him have a part in the Spring, but fall wou'd suit me best. I wish you to make yourself well acquainted with the Titles, so that, at a future day, there might not be any dispute.

By the enumeration it appears, that there is in the Territory, 77,508, Souls, by which we are entitled, to two Representatives in Congress. My Choice, (as well as a number of others) is yourself, and Willm. C: C: Claiborne. Your interest here, will by his friends be Supported, and blended with his; it is our wish, that you may have the same Done for him in Cumberland. from present prospects, he will certainly, out poll, either of his Opponents.

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I hope to see you at the Convention, when we will Communicate more at large. I am Dear
Sir, with every Sentiment of the most sincere Esteem, your friend and Obedt Servt